

Appl. No. 10/042,967
Reply to Office Action of: March 29, 2007

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AMENDMENT TO THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the claims as indicated in the following listing of claims. This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings, of claims in the present application.

Listing of Claims:

CLAIMS

1. (canceled)
2. (canceled)
3. (canceled)
4. (canceled)
5. (canceled)
6. (canceled)
7. (canceled)
8. (canceled)
9. (canceled)
10. (canceled)
11. (canceled)
12. (canceled)
13. (canceled)
14. (canceled)
15. (canceled)
16. (canceled)
17. (canceled)
18. (canceled)

19. (new) A computer program product to provide a substitute filter for an existing filter in a router installed in a network, said existing filter being specifically written for said router after said router was installed in said network for the intended purpose of

Appl. No. 10/042,967
Reply to Office Action of: March 29, 2007

addressing specific circumstances of the network operation, said computer program product comprising:

a computer readable media;

first program instructions to identify one of a multiplicity of pre-written filters which addresses the specific circumstances for which said existing filter was specifically written;

second program instructions to write the identified one of a multiplicity of pre-written filters into a file for installation in said router to substitute for said existing filter; and wherein

said first and second program instructions are recorded on said computer readable media.

20. (new) A program product as set forth in claim 19, wherein a defined test is used to identify one of a multiplicity of pre-written filters that addresses the specific circumstances for which said existing filter was specifically written.

21. (new) A program product as set forth in claim 19, wherein said first program instructions identify said one pre-written filter by identifying defined features of the existing filter that address the specific circumstances for which said existing filter was specifically written and matching features of said multiplicity of pre-written filters with said defined features.

22. (new) A program product as set forth in claim 21, wherein matching features of said multiplicity of pre-written filters with said defined features comprises searching said multiplicity of pre-written filters for said defined features.

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Appl. No. 10/042,967

Reply to Office Action of March 29, 2007

23. (new) A program product as set forth in claim 19, wherein said first program instructions identify said one pre-written filter by identifying defined criteria for determining that the specific circumstances for which said existing filter was specifically written are addressed and matching said multiplicity of pre-written filters with said defined criteria.

24. (new) A program product as set forth in claim 19, wherein said first program instructions identify said one pre-written filter by identifying intended functions of the existing filter to address the specific circumstances for which said existing filter was specifically written and matching functions of said multiplicity of pre-written filters with said identified intended functions.

25. (new) A program product as set forth in claim 19, wherein said first program instructions:

identify a problem with use of said router in said network which said existing filter was written to avoid; and

search the multiplicity of pre-written filters to identify a pre-written filter which avoids the identified problem.

26. (new) A system for providing a substitute filter for an existing filter in a router installed in a network, said existing filter being specifically written for said router after said router was installed in said network to avoid a problem with use of said router in said network, said system product comprising:

means for identifying one of a multiplicity of pre-written filters which avoids the problem with use of said router in said network for which said existing filter was specifically written; and

means for installing said one pre-written filter into said router to substitute for said existing filter.

Appl. No. 10/042,967

Reply to Office Action of: March 29, 2007

27. (new) A system as set forth in claim 26, wherein the identifying means identifies defined features of the existing filter that address the specific circumstances for which said existing filter was specifically written and matches features of said multiplicity of pre-written filters with said defined features.

28. (new) A system as set forth in claim 27, wherein the identifying means matches features of said multiplicity of pre-written filters with said defined features by searching said multiplicity of pre-written filters for said defined features.

29. (new) A system as set forth in claim 26, wherein the identifying means determines that said one pre-written filter provides a function that matches an intended function of said existing filter.

30. (new) A system as set forth in claim 26, wherein the identifying means determines that said one pre-written filter provides a function that matches an intended function of said existing filter.

31. (new) A method for providing a substitute filter for an existing filter in a router installed in a network, said existing filter being specifically written for said router to address specific circumstances of the network operation, said method comprising the steps of:

identifying one of a multiplicity of pre-written filters which address the specific circumstances of the network operation for which said existing filter was specifically written; and

in response to the identifying step, installing said one pre-written filter in said router to substitute for said existing filter.

Appl. No. 10/042,967
Reply to Office Action of: March 29, 2007

32. (new) A method as set forth in claim 31, wherein the identifying step includes the step of using a defined test to identify one of a multiplicity of pre-written filters that addresses the specific circumstances for which said existing filter was specifically written.

33. (new) A method as set forth in claim 31, wherein said identifying step includes the steps of:

identifying defined features of the existing filter that address the specific circumstances for which said existing filter was specifically written; and
matching features of said multiplicity of pre-written filters with said defined features.

34. (new) A method as set forth in claim 33, wherein said matching step comprises searching said multiplicity of pre-written filters for said defined features.

35. (new) A method as set forth in claim 31, wherein said identifying step comprises the steps of:

identifying defined criteria for determining that the specific circumstances for which said existing filter was specifically written are addressed; and
matching said multiplicity of pre-written filters with said defined criteria.

36. (new) A method as set forth in claim 31, wherein said identifying step comprises the steps of:

identifying intended functions of the existing filter to address the specific circumstances for which said existing filter was specifically written; and
matching functions of said multiplicity of pre-written filters with said identified intended functions.

Appl. No. 10/042,967

Reply to Office Action of: March 29, 2007

37. (new) A method as set forth in claim 31, wherein said identifying step comprises the steps of:

identifying a problem with use of said router in said network which said existing filter was written to avoid; and

searching the multiplicity of pre-written filters to identify a pre-written filter which avoids the identified problem.